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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

Komeyama et al.

Serial No.: 10/660,754

Group Art Unit: 3679

Filed: September 12, 2003

Examiner: Gregory John Binda

For: CROSS JOINT

Honorable Commissioner of Patents
Alexandria, VA 22313 - 1450

APPLICANT'S INTERVIEW SUMMARY

Applicants appreciate the courtesies extended to the Applicants' representative during a telephone interview on February 21, 2006. During the telephone interview, Examiner Binda explained the objection to Figure 3 as is addressed in detail below.

During the telephone interview:

1. No exhibit was shown and no demonstration was conducted.
2. Figure 3 was discussed.
3. No applied references were discussed.
4. No amendments were discussed.
5. Applicants thank Examiner Binda for the courtesies extended during a telephone conference on February 21, 2006, where Examiner Binda explained his concerns regarding Figure 3.

In response to Examiner Binda's very helpful suggestions, Applicants propose to submit a replacement drawing sheet which corrects Figure 3 to comply with recognized conventions regarding representing a residual compressive stress which increases as corresponding to an increase in the distance along the Y- axis from the origin, to provide the legends for the X-axis along the X-axis, and to correctly show the X-axis as extending from

the origin of the graph.

The Examiner also objected to Figure 3 for not showing a residual compressive stress as being larger than 800 MPa at depths of at least 0.3 mm as described by the specification at page 11, lines 8+ and page 12, lines 22+. In this regard, Applicants propose to amend the specification to more clearly describe that the residual compressive stress is larger than 800 MPa at a depth of up to 0.3 mm.

The Examiner also objected to the drawings as failing to show “the round-shaped section does not include concave corner” as recited by independent claims 1 and 50.

However, the Examiner contradicts this allegation by pointing out that “Fig. 1 clearly shows that when the center of curvature is at the outer side of the cross shaft joint it forms a concave corner.” Therefore, the Examiner admits that Figure 1 “clearly shows” this feature.

In this regard, Applicants propose to submit an amendment that clarifies independent claims 1 and 50 to recite a concave angled corner.

In stark contrast, Figure 1 clearly illustrates a concave round-shaped corner and not a concave angled corner. Therefore, Figure 1 clearly illustrates an exemplary embodiment which does not include a concave angled corner.

6. No other pertinent matters were discussed.

7. Results of the Interview:

The Examiner agreed to review Applicant’s response to the Office Action.

Should the Examiner find the Application to be other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the local telephone number listed below to discuss any other changes deemed necessary in a telephonic or personal interview.

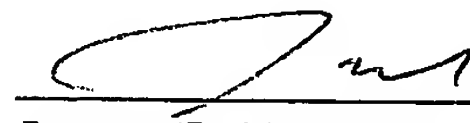
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The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in fees or to credit any overpayment in fees to Attorney's Deposit Account No. 50-0481.

Respectfully Submitted,

Date: 3/21/24


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